

Remarks

Applicant respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 18, 19, 23, 24, 26, 27, 32, 34, 35, 39, 41, 43, 44 and 50 have been amended. Claims 1, 17 and 31 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 2-16, 18-30 and 32-50 are presented for examination.

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 15 and 16. In addition, applicant acknowledges that claims 7, 11-14, 23, 27-30, 39, 40 and 44-47 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-6, 8-10, 17-22, 24-26, 31-38, 41-43 and 48-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaddha et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,014,701) in view of Baumann et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,772,217). Applicant submits that the rejection has been obviated by the amendment of the claims.

Particularly, the claims have been amended to appear in condition for allowance as suggested by the Office Action. For example, claim 7 has been amended to include the features of claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.


The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: January 5, 2005



Mark L. Watson
Reg. No. 46,322

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(303) 740-1980